

DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **ANNULOTOMY CLOSURE DEVICE** the specification of which X is attached hereto or was filed on as Application No. and was amended on (if applicable).

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56. I claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No.	Filing Date
60/154,969	September 20, 1999

Full Name of Inventor 1:	Last Name: MATSUURA	First Name: DAVID	Middle Name or Initial: G.	
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Full Name of Inventor 2:	Last Name: GILLESPIE	First Name: WALTER	Middle Name or Initial: D.	
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Full Name of Inventor 3:	Last Name: MARINO	First Name: JAMES	Middle Name or Initial: F.	
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Full Name of Inventor 4:	Last Name: PASTORE	First Name: SELISE	Middle Name or Initial: M.	
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I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signature of Inventor 1 _____ DAVID G. MATSUURA	Signature of Inventor 2 _____ WALTER D. GILLESPIE	Signature of Inventor 3 _____ JAMES F. MARINO
Date	Date	Date
Signature of Inventor 4 _____ SELISE M. PASTORE		
Date		

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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT AND DISCIPLINE**

LIMITED RECOGNITION UNDER 37 CFR §10.9(b)

David R. Heckadon is hereby given limited recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b), as an employee of the Townsend and Townsend and Crew, law firm, to prepare and prosecute patent applications and to represent patent applicants wherein the patent applicants are clients of the Townsend and Townsend and Crew law firm, and wherein a registered practitioner who is a member of the Townsend and Townsend and Crew law firm is the attorney or agent of record. This limited recognition shall expire on the date appearing below, or when whichever of the following events first occurs prior to the date appearing below: (i) David R. Heckadon ceases to lawfully reside in the United States; (ii) David R. Heckadon's employment with the Townsend and Townsend and Crew law firm ceases or is terminated; or (iii) David R. Heckadon ceases to remain or reside in the United States on an H-1B visa.

This document constitutes proof of such recognition. The original of this document is on file in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Expires: November 23, 2000


Harry I. Moatz, Acting Director
Office of Enrollment and Discipline